

NTI-019-2 (711)

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Christophe Pierrat & Youping Zhang

Atty. Dkt. No.: NTI-019-2 (711)

Assignee:

Numerical Technologies, Inc.

Title:

Dissection of Edges with Projection Points in a

Fabrication Layout for Correcting Proximity

Effects

Serial No.

09/675,197

File Date: 09/29/2000

Examiner:

L. Garbowski

Art Unit: 2825

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BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS Washington, D. C. 20231

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Before beginning a substantive examination of the above application, please replace and cancel the following claims as indicated.

## IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 is replaced with:

1. (Amended) A method of correcting for proximity effects in a layout, the layout including a first layout for a trim mask and a second layout for a phase-shifting mask, the trim mask and the phase-shifting mask used to fabricate a wafer, the method comprising:

identifying edges of the first and second layouts that will print on the wafer;